

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-06

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T STATE 183324

STADIS//////////

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA ETRD ETEL CH US

SUBJECT: EA/PRCM WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

1. PRC INTEREST IN INTELSAT; SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS

(SECRET)

PEKING IS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING JOINING INTELSAT, WHICH LAST YEAR FORCED OUT THE ROC (THERE WAS A FACE-SAVING RESIGNATION) TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE PRC. A PRCLO OFFICIAL HAS TALKED WITH THE INTELSAT LEGAL ADVISER ABOUT THE PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF JOINING. BUT THE CHINESE HAVE INDICATED CONCERN ABOUT TWO OF THESE ASPECTS: ROC SIGNATURES ON THE INTELSAT INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

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(WHICH THE PRC WILL NOT HAVE TO SIGN), AND THE PRESENCE OF A DEPARTMENT PERSON AT THE MEMBERSHIP CEREMONY (WE ARE THE OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY OF THE INTELSAT AGREEMENTS). MEAN- WHILE, USLO HAS NOTED THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF SEVERAL US TELECOMMUNICATIONS FIRMS ARE IN OR ARE HEADED FOR PEKING. USLO SUGGESTS THE CHINESE MAY SOON WANT TO BUY A DOMESTIC SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM FROM THE US, OR FROM

ELSEWHERE.

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2. AP VISIT TO PEKING (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

ANSWERING A QUESTION YOU RAISED ABOUT AN ITEM IN LAST WEEK'S REPORT, KAY GRAHAM IS GOING TO CHINA FOR TWO WEEKS STARTING AUGUST 29 AS PART OF A 12-PERSON AP GROUP LED BY KEITH FULLER. ALSO INCLUDED IN THE GROUP ARE ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER OF THE "NEW YORK TIMES," STANTON COOK OF THE "CHICAGO TRIBUNE," AND ROBERT L. TAYLOR OF THE "PHILADELPHIA BULLETIN." NCNA IS THE HOST. JIM LILLEY AND MIKE OKSENBERG HAVE BRIEFED THE GROUP.

3. MELVIN BELL'S ATTEMPTS TO VISIT TIBET  
(LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

TRIAL LAWYER MELVIN BELL IS CURRENTLY IN WASHINGTON AND ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN A VISA TO VISIT THE PRC, INCLUDING TIBET. WE WERE FIRST CONTACTED BY SENATOR CRANSTON'S OFFICE, WHICH HAD RECEIVED A RATHER DEMANDING LETTER FROM BELL SEEKING THE SENATOR'S INTERVENTION WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND/OR PRCLO ON HIS BEHALF. LATER, IN A CALL TO EA/PRCM BELL COMPLAINED THAT HE HAD VISITED PRCLO BUT RECEIVED NO SATISFACTION FROM THE CHINESE. WE PROVIDED HIM STANDARD INFORMATION ON OBTAINING PRC VISAS AND HE

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APPEARED SOMEWHAT MOLLIFIED BY THE END OF THE CONVERSATION. BELL, HOWEVER, COULD WELL SEEK FURTHER HIGH-LEVEL INTERCESSION ON HIS BEHALF. HE INDICATED THAT ONE ASPECT OF HIS PLANNED VISIT WOULD BE TO WRITE AN ARTICLE FOR "HOLIDAY."

4. NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR US-CHINA TRADE  
(LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR US-CHINA TRADE (NCUSCT) CHAIRMAN, CHRISTOPHER PHILLIPS, CAME BY AUGUST 3 TO INTRODUCE THE NEW NCUSCT VICE-PRESIDENT, STANLEY YOUNG, WHO UNTIL RECENTLY HAS BEEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN HONG KONG. WE ALSO DISCUSSED THE CCPIT VISIT. I TOLD CHRIS THAT THE LEVEL AT WHICH THE WHITE HOUSE WILL RECEIVE THE GROUP WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE DECIDED UNTIL LATE AUGUST AT THE EARLIEST.

CHRISTOPHER

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